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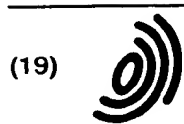
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(11)

EP 0 957 604 A1

(12)

EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

(43) Date of publication:
17.11.1999 Bulletin 1999/46(51) Int. Cl.⁶: H04J 11/00, H04L 25/03,
H04B 7/216

(21) Application number: 98108906.3

(22) Date of filing: 15.05.1998

(84) Designated Contracting States:
AT BE CH CY DE DK ES FI FR GB GR IE IT LI LU
MC NL PT SE
Designated Extension States:
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(54) Transmitter and transmitting method increasing the flexibility of code assignment

(57) According to the present invention a transmitter and a transmitting method for communicating data symbols over a communication channel, for example, according to the CDMA system is presented. The transmitter (24, 25) comprises means (9) for spreading each data symbol with a respective spreading code, wherein the spreading codes are mutually orthogonal. Means (10) for scrambling are provided to scramble each spread symbol with a respective scrambling code, the scrambling codes respectively having the same length as the spreading codes. Furthermore, means (11) for the transmission of the spread and scrambled symbols are provided. According to the present invention the means (10) for scrambling are provided with a plurality of different scrambling codes, which can be used simultaneously within the same link.

The main advantages of the present invention are the greater flexibility in the assignment of spreading sequences within a CDMA system, the increased maximum data rate for downlink or uplink.

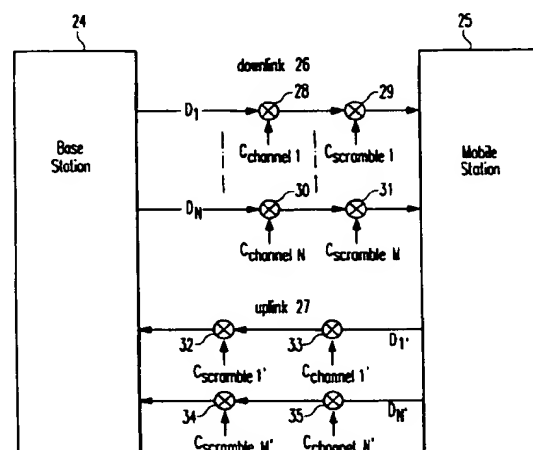


Fig. 2

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Description

[0001] The present invention relates to a transmitter, a wireless transmission system as well as to a method for the transmission of data symbols over a communication channel which particularly finds its application in the field of so-called CDMA systems.

[0002] CDMA (Code Division Multiple Access) transmitting systems are known from the state of the art. According to one CDMA technique, after the modulation (symbol mapping), the symbols are spread by a so-called spreading sequence or spreading code. After spreading the resulting data stream is scrambled by a scrambling sequence of a scrambling code. The thus resulting data stream, which has been spread and scrambled, is then power-amplified and sent over a communication channel. The reverse procedure happens at the receiving side.

[0003] In Figure 3 an example for a transmission system comprising scrambling and spreading is shown. In the example of Figure 3 only the downlink communication channel 26 from a base station 24 to a mobile station 25 is shown. The downlink 26 can comprise different channels D_1, \dots, D_N . Each channel comprises channelisation (spreading) 28, 30 and scrambling 29, 31. According to the state of the art in one link, as for example the downlink 26 as shown in Figure 3, only one scrambling sequence (scrambling code) and several different spreading codes (often referred to as channelization codes) are used depending upon the data rate and services required. The drawback of this approach is that only certain types of channelisation codes can be used together and the highest data rate is constrained by the length of the shortest channelisation code. This is especially true when codes of different rates are used.

[0004] From WO 96/05668 A1 and EP-A-565 506 techniques for multiple access coding for radio communication is known. According to these documents information symbols are spread using orthogonal or bi-orthogonal codewords. This spread information symbols are assigned a unique scramble mask that is taken from a set of scramble masks having selected correlation properties. The set of scramble masks is selected such that the correlation between the modulo-2 sum of two scramble masks with any codeword is a constant magnitude independent of the codeword and the individual mask being compared. According to one embodiment of WO 96/05668 A1, when any two masks are summed using modulo-2 sum arithmetic, the Walsh transformation of that sum results in a maximally flat Walsh spectrum. For cellular radio telephone systems using subtractive CDMA demodulation techniques, a two-tier ciphering system ensures security at the cellular system level by using a pseudorandomly generated code key to select one of the scramble masks common to all of the mobile stations in a particular cell. As according to these techniques one common scramble mask is used for all mobile stations in a particular cell,

the above-cited drawback arises that only certain types of channelisation codes can be used together limiting the number of available channelisation (spreading) codes.

[0005] In view of the above-cited drawbacks it is of the object of the present invention to enhance the flexibility of code assignment for a CDMA system, particularly within a cell sector and/or to increase the maximum data rate.

[0006] The central idea of the present invention, thereby is a new code allocation scheme for a CDMA system, utilising two or more scrambling codes within one link (uplink or downlink).

[0007] According to the present invention therefore a transmitter for communicating data symbols over a communication channel is provided, the transmitter comprising means for spreading each data symbol with a respective spreading code, wherein the spreading codes are mutually orthogonal. Furthermore means for scrambling each spread symbol with a respective scrambling code are provided, the scrambling codes respectively having the same length as the spreading codes. Means are provided for the transmission of the spread and scrambled symbols. According to the present invention the means for scrambling are provided with a plurality of different scrambling codes which can be used simultaneously within the same link.

[0008] The means for scrambling the spread symbols can use different scrambling codes for an uplink communication channel and a downlink communication channel.

[0009] The spreading codes can be obtained by means of a code tree.

[0010] According to an aspect of the present invention, only in a downlink communication channel different scrambling codes are used, wherein in an uplink channel only one scrambling code is used.

[0011] The means for scrambling can use different scrambling codes within the same link only for channels demanding a high bit rate.

[0012] According to the present invention, furthermore a wireless transmission system comprising a transmitter of the above-cited type is provided, wherein a subset of scrambling codes is respectively allocated to a cell of the transmission system.

[0013] Different spreading codes can be allocated to adjacent cells of the transmission system.

[0014] According to the present invention, furthermore a method for the transmission of data symbols over a communication channel is provided. Data symbols are spread with a respective spreading code, wherein the respective spreading codes are mutually orthogonal. Each spread symbol is scrambled with a respective scrambling code, the scrambling codes not changing the band rate of the transmission (in contrast to the spreading codes). The spread and scrambled symbols are transmitted.

[0015] According to the present invention, when

[0021] Further aspects, features and advantages of the present invention will be described by means of embodiments of the present invention with reference to the enclosed figures.

Figure 6 shows an application of the present invention to provide for higher data rate services.

[0025] For the uplink 27, according to the present invention either the same scrambling codes $C_{\text{scramble } 1} \dots C_{\text{scramble } M}$ as in the case of the downlink 26, or another group of scrambling codes $C_{\text{scramble } 1} \dots C_{\text{scramble } M'}$ or, as generally the uplink channel 27 demands for the same high bit rate as the downlink channel 26, even just one scrambling code can be used.

[0026] As it has already been set forth above, the downlink channel 26 or the uplink channel 27 can com-

prise subchannels for video and/or voice transmission. As one aspect of the present invention, different scrambling codes can be allocated for the scrambling of the channels demanding for a high bit rate, as it is the case, for example, for the transmission of video data. For transmission of, for example, voice data, only one scrambling code can be used.

[0027] Regarding the details of the spreading and scrambling process, particularly the modulo-2 sum operation for the scrambling at the transmission side and the multiplying operation for the descrambling at the reception side, the above-cited documents WO 96/05668 A1 and EP-A-565 506 are incorporated by reference. Particularly Figures 1 and 2 in the corresponding description (page 14 to page 19) of WO 96/05668 A1 are incorporated by reference.

[0028] According to the present invention the spreading codes are generated by a code tree. This technique is known from Adachi, "Tree-structured generation of orthogonal spreading codes with different lengths for forward link of DS-CDMA mobile radio", Electronic Letters, January 1997, Vol.33, No.1, page 27, 28, which is incorporated herewith by reference.

[0029] Orthogonal spreading codes with different lengths can be generated by a tree-structure for orthogonal multiplexing of forward-link code-channels of different data rates in direct sequence code division multiple access DS-CDMA mobile radio. Thereby codes of the same layer of the tree constitute a set of Walsh functions and are orthogonal. Furthermore, any two codes of different layers of the tree structure are also orthogonal except for the case that one of the two codes is a mother code of the other.

[0030] As it has already been set forth in the introductory portion, when only one scrambling code (or long code) is used per link, there are restrictions of the combinations of codes which can be used for the orthogonal codes (see Adachi et al.) These restrictions may prevent a user from being allocated to a certain channel. These restrictions are especially important for high data rate users. Furthermore the highest data rate is restricted to the shortest orthogonal code.

[0031] As according to the present invention two or more scrambling codes are assigned to one link (one user), the following advantages are achieved:

- increased flexibility in assignment of orthogonal codes since the data rate can be split over at least two scrambling codes and a different (longer) orthogonal code can be chosen from the code tree (see Adachi et al); and
 - the highest data rate is increased since the data rate can be split over at least two scrambling codes.
- Therefore a higher data rate service on one link (uplink or downlink) can be provided by using a plurality of scrambling codes within one link. In this way the same channelisation codes (spreading codes) can be reused and a higher data rate can be

supported because the highest data rate is restricted by the set of channelisation codes (spreading codes) with the shortest link.

[0032] By only using two scrambling codes ($M=2$) per link (user), the total number of available channelisation codes (spreading codes) can be doubled and the maximum data rate can also be doubled.

[0033] Figure 4 shows a symbolized cell distribution of a wireless transmission system. One cell C_1 is surrounded by six other hexagonal cells C_2, \dots, C_7 . According to the present invention, a total number of, for example, 512 different scrambling codes can be used. To avoid interference between adjacent cells, the total number of 512 scrambling codes can for example be divided by 7 and each cell C_1, \dots, C_7 can be allocated a subset of said scrambling codes. Different users within one cell can use different scrambling codes allocated to the respective cell.

[0034] As it has already been set forth above, according to the present invention one scrambling code is used in conjunction with a set of channelisation codes (spreading codes) depending upon the required data rate and services required. Adjacent base stations can use different scrambling codes and every base station uses a set of scrambling codes to maintain different links in each cell.

[0035] An application of the present invention will now be explained with reference to Figure 5. According to the state of the art, if a new user requests, for example, a 2 Mbit/s service, the base station 24 is forced to allocate a new scrambling code (and code tree) to support this service. The codes in the code tree are therefore not optimally utilised.

[0036] To increase the flexibility of code assignment and increase the usage of the codes and the code tree, it is proposed to use as an option more than one scrambling code per link.

[0037] In Figure 5 a base station 24 is shown using two scrambling sequences (codes) 1 and 2. Shown by each scrambling code is a set of possible services being supported by each of the scrambling codes. In this load situation, if a new user 32 requests a 2 Mbit/s service, the base station 24 has to devote a new scrambling code to support this service.

[0038] If, however, the new user 32 uses 2 ($SF=4$) orthogonal codes from scrambling code 1 and 1 ($SF=4$) orthogonal code from scrambling code 2, a 2 Mbit/s service can be supported and the codes and the code tree can be more optimally utilised.

[0039] Figure 6 shows another application of the present invention. According to Figure 6, the idea according to the present invention is used to provide an increased data rate, for example, for a WCDMA system. Figure 6 shows the suggested scheme for an increased data rate. To increase the data rate normally in WCDMA one or both of the following approaches are required:

- reduction of processing gain, and
- increase of chip rate (enhanced bandwidth).

[0040] By utilizing the scheme as shown in Figure 6 the data rate can be increased by combining more than one scrambling code. The example shows the data rate at 4 Mbit/s, but obviously higher rates can be achieved by using more than one scrambling code.

Claims

1. Transmitter for communicating data symbols over a communication channel, the transmitter (24; 25) comprising:
 - means (9) for spreading each data symbol with a respective spreading code, wherein the spreading codes are mutually orthogonal,
 - means (10) for scrambling each spread symbol with a respective scrambling code, the scrambling codes respectively having the same length as the spreading codes, and
 - means (11) for the transmission of the spread and scrambled symbols, wherein the means (10) for scrambling are provided with a plurality of different scrambling codes which can be used simultaneously within the same link.
2. Transmitter according to claim 1, characterized in that the means for scrambling (10) can use different scrambling codes for an uplink communication channel (27) and a downlink communication channel (26), respectively.
3. Transmitter according to anyone of the preceding claims, characterized in that the spreading codes are obtained by means of a code tree.
4. Transmitter according to anyone of the preceding claims, characterized in that
 - only in a downlink communication channel (26) different scrambling codes are used, wherein in an uplink channel (27) only one scrambling code is used.
5. Transmitter according to anyone of the preceding claims, characterized in that
 - the means (10) for scrambling use different

6. Transmitter according to claim 5, characterized in that the means for scrambling use different scrambling codes within the same link only for video channels demanding a high bit rate.
7. Wireless transmission system, characterized in that it comprises a transmitter (24; 25) according to anyone of the preceding claims, wherein a subset of scrambling codes is respectively allocated to a cell of the transmission system.
8. Wireless transmission system according to claim 7, characterized in that different spreading codes are allocated to adjacent cells of the transmission system.
9. Method for the transmission of data symbols over a communication channel, comprising the following steps:
 - spreading (9) each data symbol with a respective spreading code, wherein the spreading codes are mutually orthogonal,
 - scrambling (10) each spread symbol with a respective scrambling code, the scrambling codes respectively having the same length as the spreading codes, and
 - transmitting (11, 12) the spread and scrambled symbols, wherein for the step of scrambling (10) a plurality of different scrambling codes is used which can be used simultaneously within the same link.
10. Method according to claim 9, characterized in that
 - in the step of scrambling (10) different scrambling codes can be used for an uplink communication channel (27) and a downlink communication channel (26), respectively.
11. Method according to anyone of claims 9 or 10, characterized in that the spreading codes are obtained by means of a code tree.
12. Method according to anyone of claims 9 to 11, characterized in that

only in a downlink communication channel (26) different scrambling codes are used, wherein in the uplink communication channel (27) only one scrambling code is used.

13. Method according to anyone of claims 4 to 12, characterized in that:

different scrambling codes ~~are~~ ^{are} the same link are used only for channels ~~transmitting~~ ^{transmitting} a high bit rate.

14. Method according to claim 13, characterized in that:

different scrambling codes ~~are~~ ^{are} the same link are used only for video channels.

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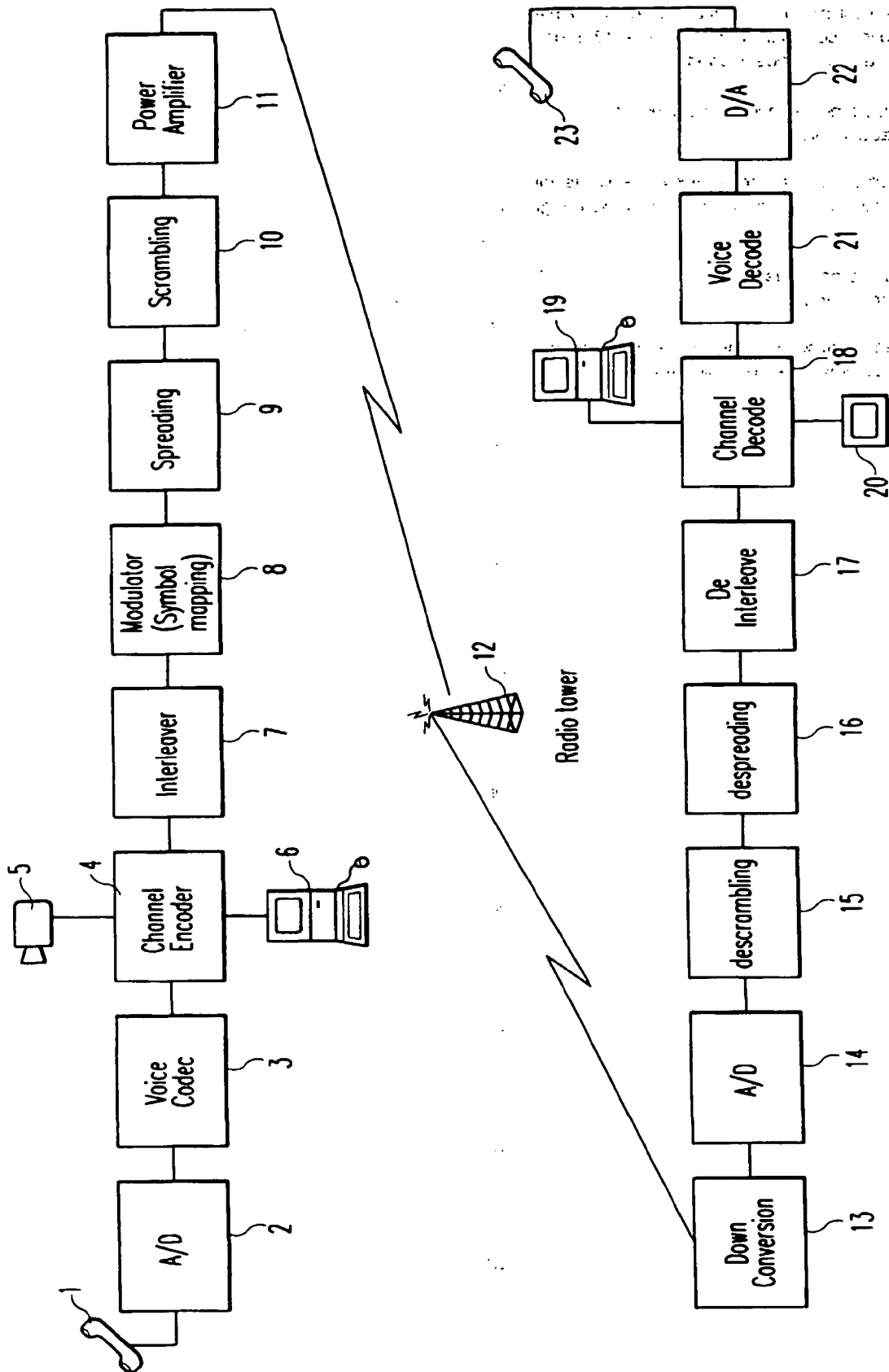


Fig. 1

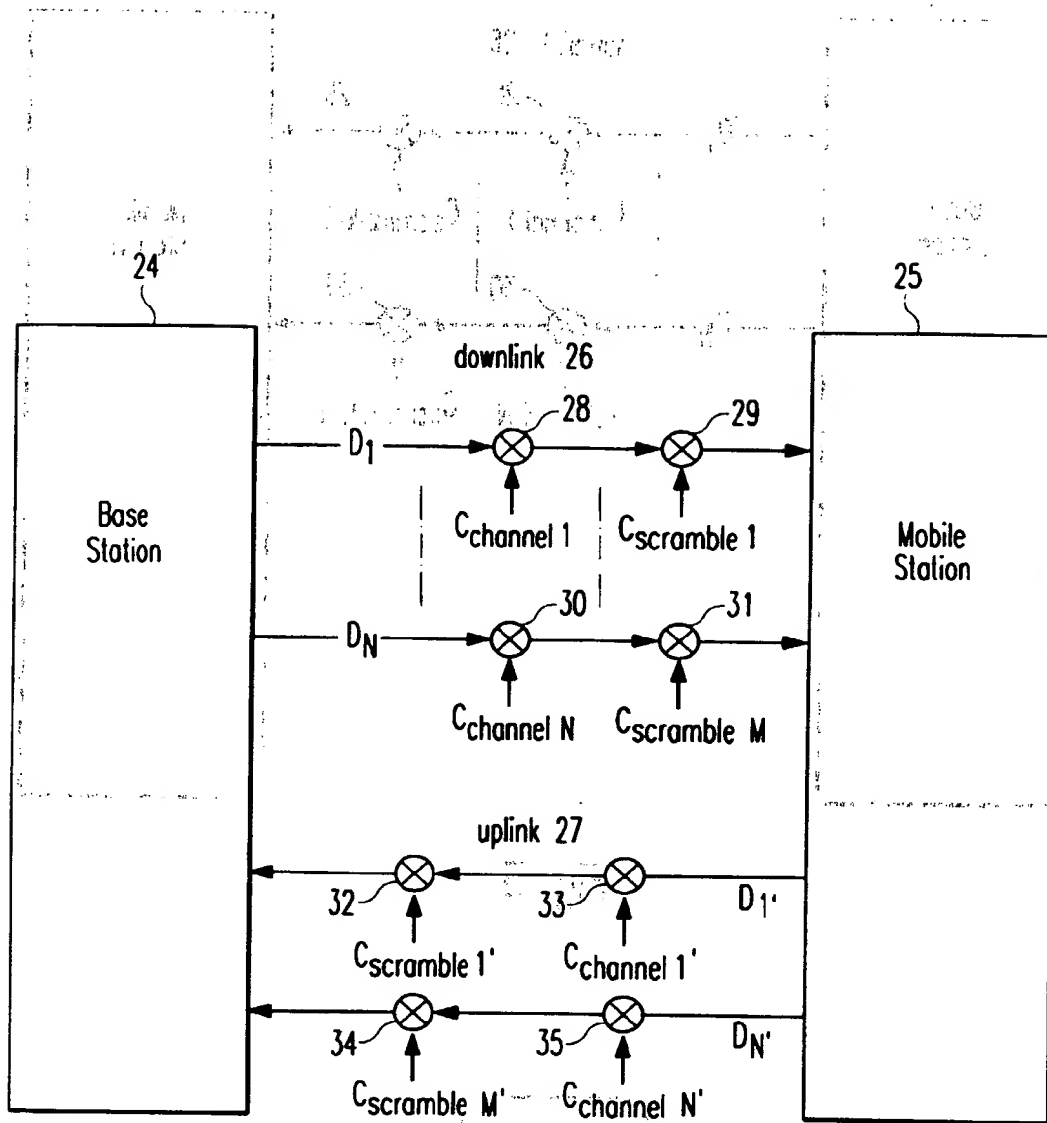


Fig. 2

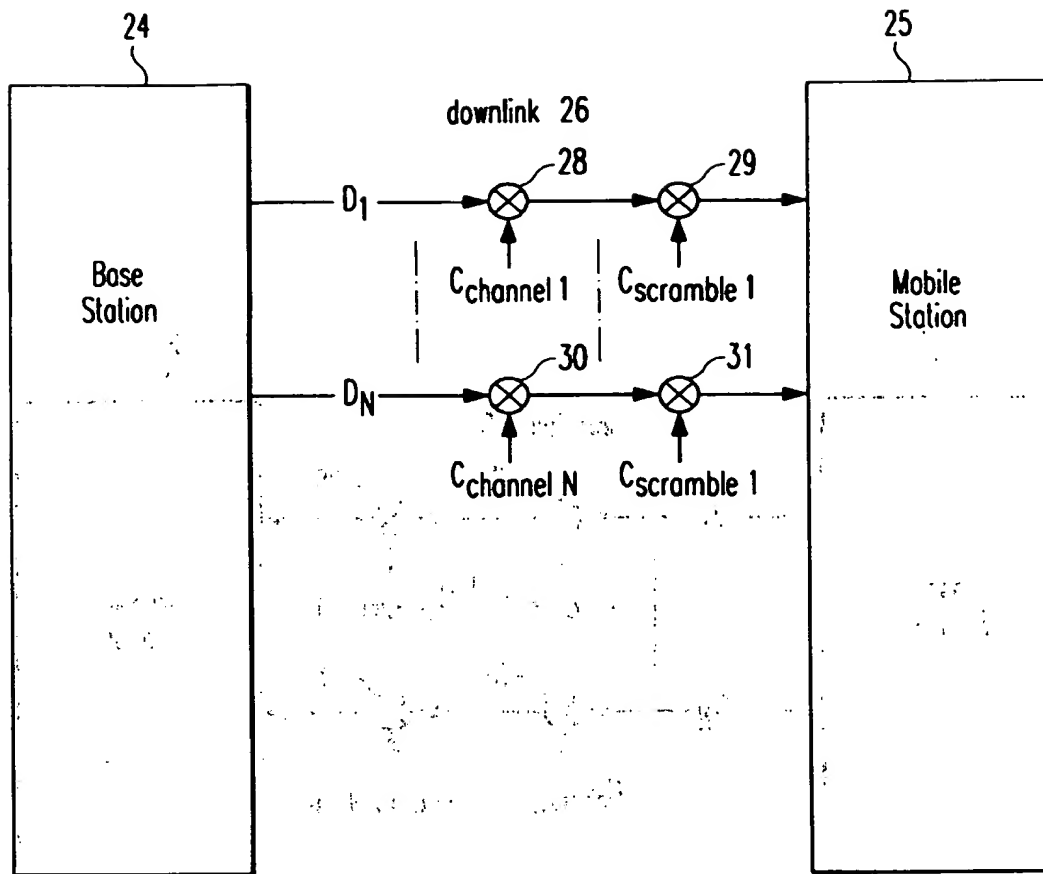


Fig. 3

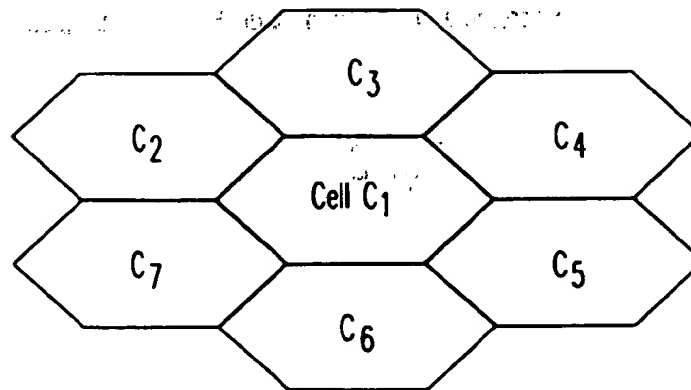


Fig. 4

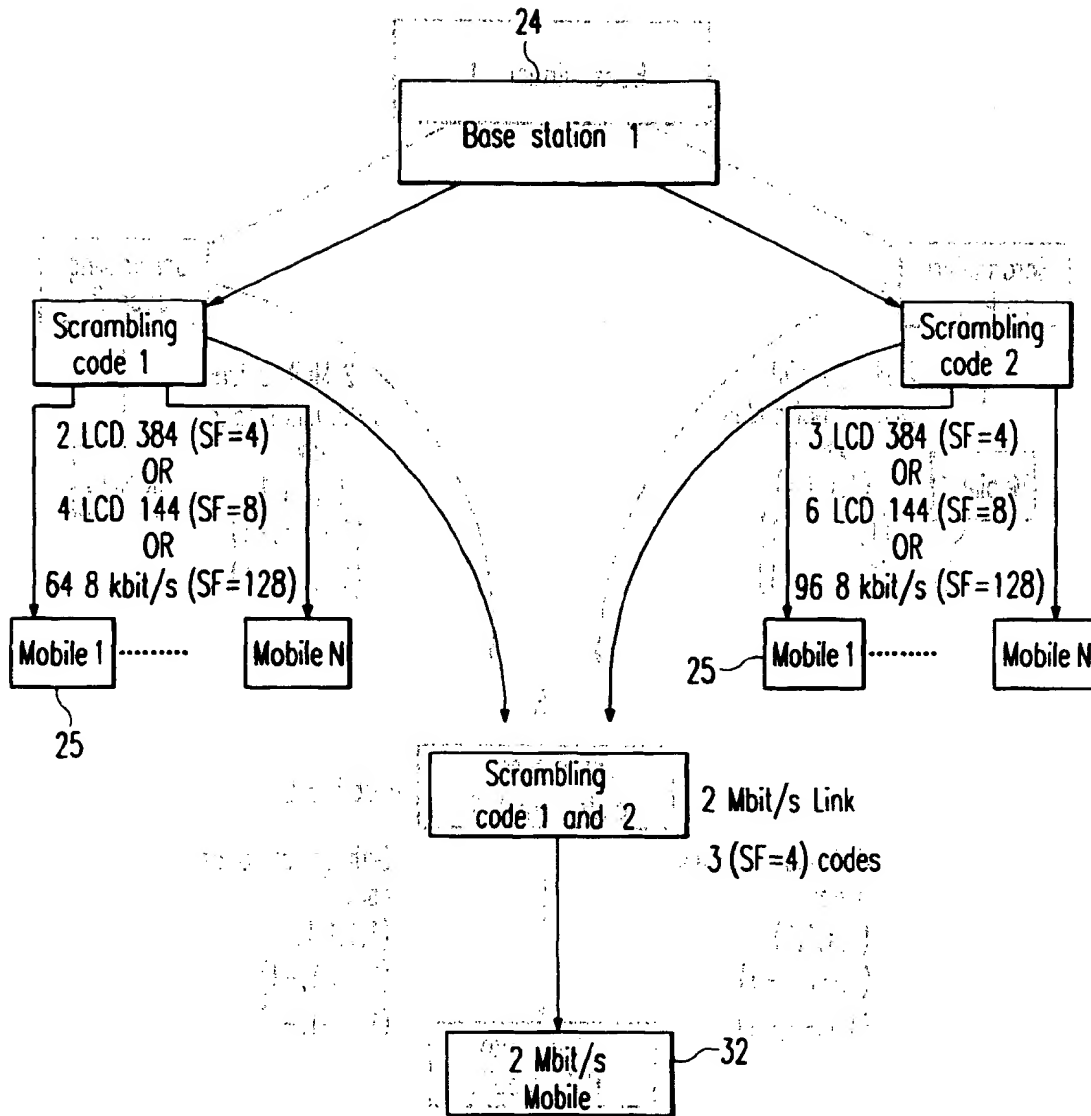


Fig. 5

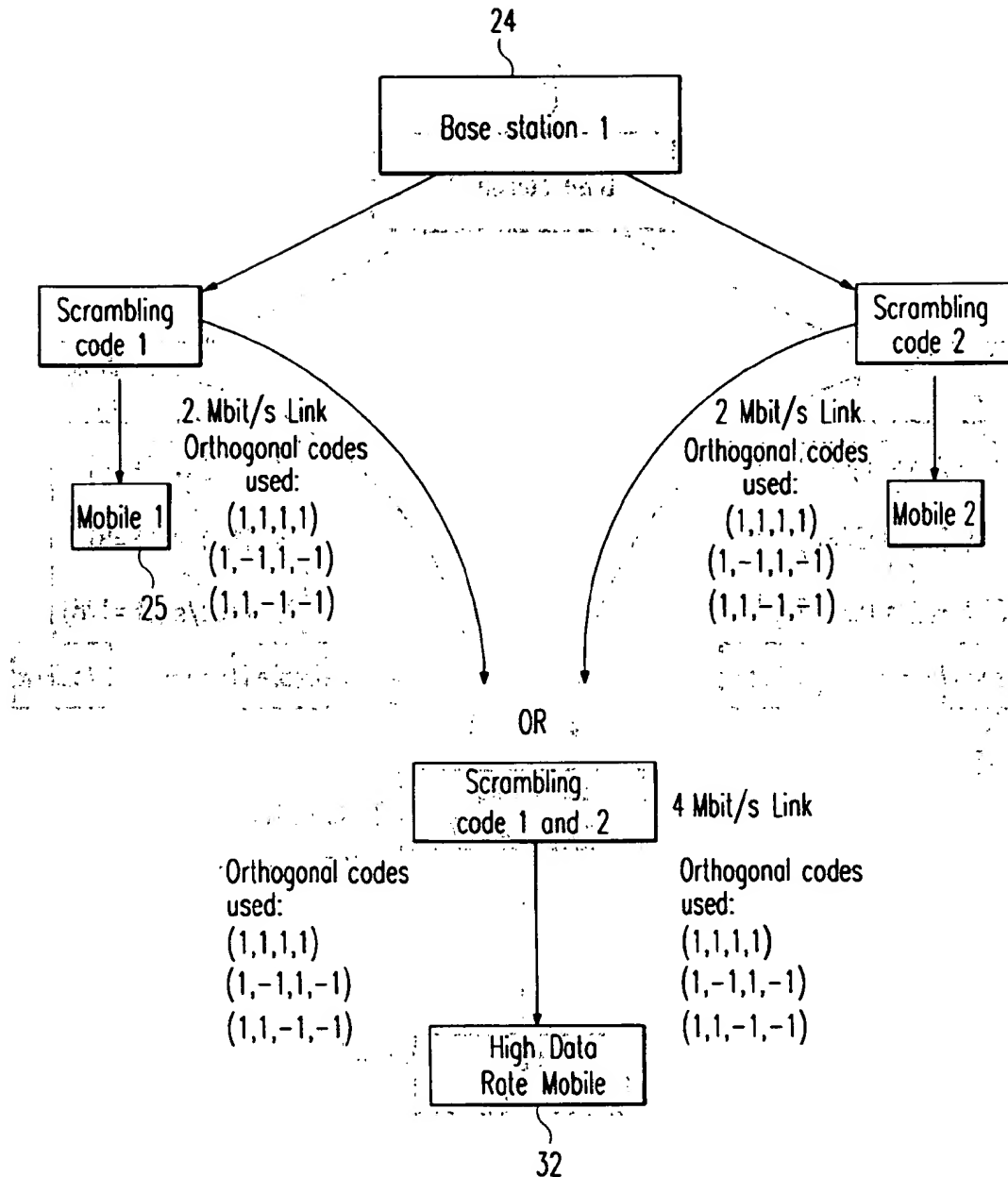


Fig. 6



European Patent
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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 98 10 8906

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.CI.8)
D, A	<p>WO 96 05668 A (ERICSSON GE MOBILE INC) 22 February 1996</p> <p>* abstract *</p> <p>* page 4, line 12 - page 6, line 9 *</p> <p>* page 8, line 25 - page 12, line 28 *</p> <p>* page 14, line 14 - page 18, line 6 *</p>	1, 9	<p>H04J11/00 H04L25/03 H04B7/216</p>
			<p>TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.CI.8)</p> <p>H04J H04L H04B</p>
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 6 October 1998	Examiner Chauvet, C
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EP 98: 10 8906

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WO 9605668 A	22-02-1996	US 5550809 A	27-08-1996
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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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